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GERMANS TAKE UP OFFENSIVE AGAIN IN WOEVRE DISTRICT

AFTER LULL IN INFANTRY OPERATIONS AT VERDUN THE TEUTONS AGAIN TAKE UP THE OFFENSIVE IN THE WOEVRE REGION.

Violent Bombardment of French Positions Being Made and Attack is Centered on Village of Fresnes, Ten Miles Southeast—Ninety Thousand Germans Being Concentrated Near Bezy Behind Fort Vaux which is Said to Have Been Destroyed by Heavy German Mortars—Paris Newspaper says German Losses in Verdun Fighting Were One Hundred and Fifty-Five Thousand Men Constituting About One-Third of Army—Germans Actually Engaged in the Fighting—Buenos Aires Reports Capture of German Raider Moewe by British Cruisers, Although There is Some Doubt as to Identity of Captured Vessel—Discord Among German Officers Resulted as Result of Recent Verdun Offensive.

After a lull in the infantry operations at Verdun, the Germans have taken up the offensive in the Woevre region with a violent bombardment and spirited attack on Fresnes, a village ten miles southeast.

Ninety thousand Germans are being concentrated near Bezy behind Fort Vaux, which is said to have been destroyed by the German heavy mortars.

A report from Paris says, the Petit Parisien says the German losses to date in the Verdun fighting were about 125,000 men and constitute about one-third of the German effectives actually employed in the fighting.

Kaiser Returns to Berlin.

London, March 2.—The German emperor left the Verdun front and returned to Germany Tuesday, according to a Rotterdam dispatch.

German Raider Captured.

Buenos Aires, March 2.—Montevideo press dispatches say that a steamer arriving there intercepted wireless messages saying that British cruisers had captured the German raider Moewe. There is some doubt as to the identity of the German vessel. It is said also to be the German cruiser Roon. The vessel was taken to Trinidad Island.

Discord Among Germans.

London, March 2.—The Germans in the battle-scarred region of Verdun continue their bombardment west of the Meuse in the region between Malancourt and Foch, across the river eastward about Vaux and Don Loup, and against French trenches in the Woevre region, southeast of Verdun.

Their big offensive, however, so far as infantry attacks are concerned, has ceased at least for the moment. Whether it will begin again, or whether the Germans will rest content with the points of vantage they have gained, is not indicated in the official reports of either Berlin or Paris.

The official Berlin statement issued yesterday ignores the fighting at Verdun. A Rotterdam dispatch to the London Daily Mail says that Emperor William has left France and returned to Germany. A dispatch from Geneva says a story received there from Mainz tells of serious differences among the German general staff officers on account of the way the assault on Verdun was conducted, and, according to the same story, the Crown Prince is not to return to the battle front.

Unofficial advices from Berlin have stated that the German plan of campaign was primarily based on the

bombardment of sectors they desire to attain and it is possible they may now be drawing up their big guns to capture positions with the object of shelling points nearer their objective—Verdun.

East of Verdun around Pont-A-Mousson, the French have bombarded German positions heavily in Le-Petre wood and near Thiaucourt. Artillery duels have been in progress in Alsace. There has been no resumption of German attacks against the French in the Champagne region.

While nothing of especial importance has taken place along the British part of the line the effect of the German offensive in the Verdun region is shown in the lengthening of their front in order to release the French for the reinforcement of the army opposing the German advance. Unofficial advices had placed the extreme southern end of the British line in the region of Lens. The latest British official communication reports the British fighting north of the Somme, which would show that they have stretched their front between thirty and forty miles down the region of Amiens.

PROSPECTS FOR BIG PEACH CROP ARE VERY GOOD

CONTINUED COLD WEATHER HAS RETARDED BUDDING AND WILL BE BENEFICIAL TO THE LOCAL GROWERS.

The continued cold weather, while it has been very uncomfortable for some who were compelled to be out-of-doors, will be a blessing to the peach growers of this vicinity, as it practically assures a peach crop for the coming season. Well informed peach growers who have been investigating conditions, state that the buds have not begun to swell in any of the orchards they have examined, and in their opinion the cold weather now prevailing will continue to prevent them doing so until all danger is past.

The peach growers of this section have had to labor under most discouraging conditions for the past few years. Their crops have been badly handled and in many instances after they had shipped to northern commission merchants they had to remit cash to cover an alleged deficit. This condition will be investigated by the state at large, and unless some adequate means are devised whereby the peach growers of Oklahoma are given an even break with growers of other states, they might as well go out of business.

There is no question of the quality of the Oklahoma peach, for size, beauty, and flavor they are superior to any grown anywhere, but the growers say they are tired of letting a few commission sharks get all the benefits of their labor, and are going to devise means to handle their own stuff if they cannot secure someone to do it for them on the square. It has been suggested that a local man be sent to the shipping point and open a warehouse for all the fruit grown here, but what the growers will do about this remains to be seen after their next regular meeting.

MAKING LIFE MISERABLE FOR BOOTLEGGERS

JURY FINDS NEARLY ALL THE DEFENDANTS GUILTY AS WAS CHARGED IN INFORMATION—HEAVY PENALTIES.

"You can say for me that we are getting all the 'high-brow' liquor dealers who flourished in Wirt for a season," said County Attorney Hardy this morning, "and as fast as one is convicted and sentenced he is sent to the county jail to begin his task for the state and county—not to a hotel under guard. Of course, all have served notice of appeal, but pending the hearing, which will probably not be had until after the present term of district court is over, they will remain the guests of the county."

Yesterday afternoon in district court the jury in the case of the State vs. Jeff Davis returned a verdict of guilty and assessed the punishment at a fine of five hundred dollars and a jail sentence of thirty days.

The cases of the State vs. K. Walling and Jim Freeman were dismissed for want of evidence and the defendants discharged. These are two of the few who have so far "got by" in the district court, as this term has been most productive of convictions.

This morning, Deputies Ballew and Jones returned from Ragtown with some gambling paraphernalia and a quantity of liquor, which they found there last night. No arrests were made in connection with the raid, as the birds were found to be out when the officers arrived.

Several additional cases will be added to the original docket if the activities of the officers keep up, but reports from the oil field state that Ragtown is about the driest spot in the county at present. Most of the regulars, however, are in the city, either to answer to charges for violating the liquor laws, or are in jail under conviction.

BASEBALL MEETING SUNDAY

Southern Oklahoma Baseball League to be Formed Here Next Sunday

A baseball meeting will be held in the office of T. C. Bridgman in the opera house block next Sunday afternoon at 2:30 for the purpose of organizing the Southern Oklahoma Baseball league.

Representatives from Durant, Madill, Marietta, Ringling and Wirt will be here at that time, and it is the plan of the promoters to form a permanent organization at that time.

Everyone interested in baseball for Ardmore is requested to be on hand Sunday afternoon.

ROOSEVELT'S NAME TAKEN OFF BALLOTS

SECRETARY OF PROGRESSIVE LEADER ASKS THAT ROOSEVELT'S NAME BE WITHDRAWN FROM REPUBLICAN BALLOTS.

New York, March 2.—John McGrath, secretary to Theodore Roosevelt, has asked that the Colonel's name be withdrawn from the Illinois primary ballots as a republican presidential nominee.

State Superintendent Here.

Prof. R. H. Wilson, state superintendent of public instruction, was in the city yesterday for an hour or so. He was on his way to Hugo to attend a meeting of teachers and spent the time between trains with Superintendent Richards of the city schools. They took a drive over the city and Prof. Wilson was delighted to see the vast improvements that Ardmore is making.

NEGRO STILL AT LARGE IN CADDO BOTTOM

OFFICERS HAVE ACCURATE DESCRIPTION OF CULPRIT AND FEEL CONFIDENT OF HIS CAPTURE.

After searching nearly all night in the Caddo bottoms for the negro, who assaulted Mrs. Jim Payne yesterday afternoon, the officers were compelled to return to the city and await daylight. Deputy Sheriff Kendall stated this morning that Mrs. Payne said the first thing she was aware of the negro's presence was shortly after the dinner hour, after her husband had returned to his work in the field, some distance from the house.

The negro, who is best described by the word "burley," entered the door and demanded something to eat. Mrs. Payne motioned to the table and told him to help himself. He replied that the food did not suit him, and told her to cook something warm for him. She was about to comply when the negro grabbed her by the wrist. She began to scream, when the negro drew a gun and began beating her on the head. He failed to render her unconscious, however, and her screams soon frightened the negro away, and attracted the attention of neighbors. Mrs. Payne was severely cut about the head, the walls of the room were bespattered with blood, and Mrs. Payne was suffering from a severe nervous shock when the officers and physician arrived. She was able to give an accurate description of the negro, who in his flight lost his cap, which was picked up by Deputy Kendall.

The trail was taken, and followed through the draws and bottoms of Caddo to the negro settlement when night overtook the officers. A number of deputies left here this morning to renew the search, and they feel confident that they will capture the negro before night.

Feeling in the neighborhood of the crime is high, and if the negro is captured by the citizens before the officers reach him, he probably will be roughly handled. Sheriff Garrett returned from the scene of the crime about three o'clock this morning, and stated that he felt confident of the negro's capture as soon as the deputies took the trail again.

The negroes in the Caddo settlement are, as a rule, law-abiding citizens, and will not hesitate to give the officers any information they possess as to the whereabouts of the culprit.

Mrs. Payne's condition was reported satisfactory this morning, and while her wounds are painful, they are in nowise dangerous, unless unforeseen complications arise.

HOTEL SEEMS TO HAVE STRUCK HIDDEN MINE

NOT "BLOWN UP" HOWEVER, BUT IS IN STATE OF "INNOCUOUS DESUETUDE"—PROPERTY FOR SITE HARD TO GET.

The longer the hotel question is delayed, the more apparent it becomes that if Ardmore is to have a big hotel the local capitalists are going to have to build it, and for that reason the president of the Chamber of Commerce is urging haste in formulating plans and getting the movement launched. President Mullen of the Chamber of Commerce has been spending much of his time lately in trying to secure prices on suitable sites for a hotel, but states that with a few exceptions he has met with very little encouragement. Most of the property owners, he says, when they learn that their lots are being considered, will spring a price entirely out of proportion to what the actual worth of it is, and for that

WILSON WILL ACCEPT NO COMPROMISE FROM CONGRESS

PRESIDENT TELLS CHAIRMAN FLOOD OF SENATE COMMITTEE HE WILL AGREE TO NO COMPROMISE ON ARMED SHIP ISSUE.

Administration Leaders Want Direct Vote on Resolution Warning Americans Off Armed Belligerent Vessels, and Flood Says He Believes Some Resolution Acceptable to President Will be Agreed Upon Today—Majority of House Foreign Relations Committee Said to Favor the McLamore Resolution Warning Americans Off Armed Ships—Italian Ambassador at Washington Instructed to Notify United States that His Country Will Continue to Arm Merchant Vessels, Although Only for Defensive Purposes—Five More Vessels Sunk by Germans Today, Among them Being Russian Steamer Alexander Wentzel.

reason it may be necessary to select some site further from the center of the city.

All concede that the logical place for the hotel is as close to Washington and Main streets as it is possible to get, but unless the owners of some of the property who have been asked to set a price, lower their sights, it is almost a certainty that the hotel, if erected at all, will go further west on Main street.

President Mullen stated this morning that to show where he stood he would let the hotel committee select three men to appraise his corner on Main and Washington street and agree to take their figures and make over a deed. Plans have been tentatively drawn for this lot, and some surrounding property that can be secured, and it would not be surprising to see something tangible result from it. Mr. Mullen states that he is going to consult with the committee again right away and see what they think of various plans he has to submit.

HOW BRITISH VIEW STATUS OF ARMED LINERS

MINISTER OF WAR TRADE SAYS BRITISH HAVE ALWAYS CONTENDED ARMED LINERS SHOULD USE GUNS.

London, March 1.—On the eve of the date set by Germany for the beginning of her new submarine campaign against armed merchant vessels, Lord Robert Cecil, minister of war trade, has issued a statement giving the British view of the status of such merchantmen. This statement, which is in answer to queries whether merchantmen have been instructed to take the offensive against submarines, says:

"The British view has always been that defensively armed merchantmen must not fire on submarines or any other warships except in self-defense. The Germans have twisted a passage in a document taken from a transport which they sank into meaning that merchant vessels have instructions to take the offensive. This is not so."

"The passage in question, which lays down a maximum distance beyond which merchant ships are advised not to fire, must be read in conjunction with another passage which makes it perfectly clear that merchant vessels must not attack unless a submarine unmistakably shows hostile intentions."

The German memorandum dealing with armed merchantmen received from Berlin Feb. 19 contained the following alleged instructions to their merchantmen, said to have been taken from a British boat captured or sunk by the Germans:

"If a defensively armed vessel is pursued by a submarine the master has two alternatives: (a) to open fire at long range immediately it becomes certain the submarine really is in pursuit, (b) to restrain fire until the submarine has come into range, say 500 yards, at which the fire is likely to be effective."

"In view of the great difficulty of

Washington, D. C., March 2.—President Wilson tells chairman Flood of the senate foreign relations committee that he will consent to no compromise on the armed ship issue and desires a direct vote on the resolution warning Americans off armed belligerent ships.

Chairman Flood said he believed that some resolution acceptable to the president would be agreed upon today.

It is reported that ten members of the foreign relations committee favor reporting out the McLamore warning resolution, while nine are against it.

The administration forces on account of the delay in the house, turned to the senate today to carry out Wilson's demand for the defeat of the resolutions warning Americans off armed ships.

Chairman Stone of the foreign relations committee announced that he is not in accord with Wilson and proposed that the senate adjourn to another legislative day to clear the parliamentary situation, which held the Gore resolution from a vote.

Senator Gore declared that the impelling reason for this course was the report that Wilson had told congressmen that war with Germany "might not be ungrateful and might result in advancing civilization by bringing about an end to the European war by mid-summer."

Senator Stone vehemently denied the report.

President Wilson and republican leader Mann will discuss the republican attitude this afternoon. President Wilson is seeking the republican support.

There was a spirited debate in the senate today over the ship question. Senator Gore defended his resolution, saying "I think any American placing German interests above the United States, is a traitor, and there are lots of them."

German-Americans Loyal.

Washington, March 2.—Paul F. Mueller, editor of the Chicago Abendpost, and president of the new National Association of German publishers, told President Wilson today that he believes the great majority of German-Americans are loyal to the United States.

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Merchants Meet Tonight

President J. W. Krueger, Dave Daube, J. E. Hamilton and Mr. Saunders who went to Dallas to get suggestions for Ardmore's Spring Style Show, have returned and will report to all merchants tonight at 7:30 at the court house.

"It was a great show," say these gentlemen, "but Ardmore can and will go it one better." There is no question but that when the two places are placed in comparison, Ardmore will have some features excelling the big Texas City.

Every merchant and man and woman interested in the first annual Spring Style Show is urged to attend tonight. The advertising campaign begins next week.

All auto dealers are especially urged to attend.

WEATHER FORECAST	
New Orleans, La., March 2.	
—The weather forecast for	
Oklahoma for tonight is fair	
and colder, Friday fair.	
Local Weather Report.	
Highest temperature yesterday	70
Lowest temperature last night	34
Highest temperature same date year ago	47
Lowest temperature same date year ago	33